

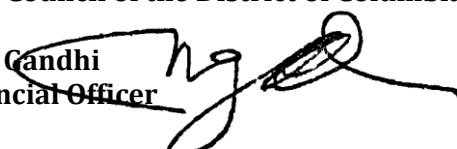
Government of the District of Columbia
Office of the Chief Financial Officer



Natwar M. Gandhi
Chief Financial Officer

MEMORANDUM

TO: The Honorable Philip H. Mendelson
Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia

FROM: Natwar M. Gandhi 
Chief Financial Officer

DATE: November 20, 2012

SUBJECT: Fiscal Impact Statement – “Autonomous Vehicle Act of 2012”

REFERENCE: Bill 19-931 – Draft Committee Print as Shared with the Office of
Revenue Analysis on November 20, 2012

Conclusion

Funds are sufficient in the FY 2013 through FY 2016 budget and financial plan to implement the bill.

Background

The bill lays the groundwork for the regulation of autonomous vehicles in the District of Columbia. The bill defines “autonomous vehicle” as a vehicle capable of navigating roadways and interpreting all existing traffic control devices such as traffic signals, signs, markings, without a driver operating any of the vehicle’s control systems.

The bill permits the operation of an autonomous vehicle in the District of Columbia, so long as the vehicle obeys all traffic laws and control devices, and has, at all times, a driver ready to take control, and a manual override feature that allows the driver to take control. The bill requires the Mayor to issue, by December 31, 2013, necessary rules that would establish the registration and permitting process for autonomous vehicles and their drivers, and the fees for registration, titling, and permitting.

The bill permits conversion of vehicles with model years 2008 or later into autonomous vehicles. The bill also grants limited liability protection to the original manufacturer of a converted autonomous vehicle if the vehicle defect that lead to the alleged injury subject of any legal action is caused by the conversion of the vehicle.

The Honorable Philip H. Mendelson

FIS: Bill 19-931, "Autonomous Vehicle Act of 2012" Draft committee print shared with the Office of Revenue Analysis on November 20, 2012

Financial Plan Impact

Funds are sufficient in the FY 2013 through FY 2016 budget and financial plan to implement the bill.

At present, there are no autonomous vehicles that are registered as District vehicles. The bill lays the necessary parameters for the regulation of autonomous vehicles and sets time limits for the development and implementation of such regulations. These provisions do not have a fiscal impact on the District's budget and financial plan.